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31108 U.S. PTC 10/678635

Mail Stop Patent Application Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Re: New U.S. Patent Application

Title: NOUVEAUX COLORANTS DIRECTS NOIRS A TRI-NOYAUX

HETEROAROMATIQUES

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Sir:

We enclose the following papers for filing in the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above patent application.

- 1. French Language Application 64 pages, including abstract.
- 2. Information Data Sheet (2 pgs.).

Applicants claim the right to priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 based on French Patent Application No. 02 12385, filed October 4, 2002, in France. Applicants also claim the right to priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) based on U.S. Provisional Application No. 60/431,749, filed December 9, 2002, in the United States.

Please address all correspondence with respect to this application to:

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This application is being filed under the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(b) and (f). Applicants await notification from the Patent and Trademark Office of the time set for filing the English language translation of the French text, filing the executed Declaration, and payment of the required statutory filing fee.

Please accord this application an application number and a filing date.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Thalia V. Warnement

Reg. No. 39,064

TVW/pag

Enclosures